

the mixture is to be compressed and onto the walls of which the necessary quantity of lubricating agent has been applied in advance;

compressing the mixture and ejecting the tablet formed.

REMARKS

Claims 3-11 have been amended to depend on Claim 1, and to eliminate multiple dependency in those claims. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

The Abstract is also attached hereto to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.72(b).

Respectfully submitted,

CAESAR, RIVISE, BERNSTEIN,
BERNSTEIN & POKOTILOV, LTD.

By


Alan H. Bernstein

Reg. No. 19,315
12th Floor, Seven Penn Center
1635 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2212
Attorneys for Applicant

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Version with markings to show changes made

3. Tablet in accordance with Claim 1 wherein ~~or Claim 2,~~
~~characterized in that~~ the lubricating agent is selected from
among the pharmaceutically acceptable lubricating agents which
have a melting point of at least 35°C, and preferably higher than
50°C.

4. Tablet in accordance with Claim 1 wherein ~~one of~~
~~Claims 1 to 3,~~ characterized in that the lubricating agent is
selected from the group including magnesium stearate, sodium
stearyl fumarate, stearic acid and micronized polyoxyethylene
glycol.

5. Tablet in accordance with Claim 1 wherein ~~one of~~
~~Claims 1 to 4,~~ characterized in that the lubricating agent is
magnesium stearate.

6. Tablet in accordance with Claim 1 wherein ~~one of~~
~~Claims 1 to 5,~~ characterized in that the quantity of lubricating
agent is in the range 0.2 to 10 parts per 1000 (weight of
lubricating agent / total weight of tablet), and is preferably
in the range 3 to 6 parts per 1000 (weight of lubricating agent
/ total weight of tablet).

7. Tablet in accordance with Claim 1 wherein ~~one of~~
~~Claims 1 to 6,~~ characterized in that the lubricating agent has a
particle size distribution such that its constituent particles
adhere when it is sprayed against a surface, preferably less
than 30 microns and more preferably still, less than 10 microns.

8. Tablet in accordance with Claim 1 wherein ~~one of~~
~~Claims 1 to 7,~~ characterized in that the disintegrating agent is
selected from the group including in particular cross-linked
sodium carboxymethylcellulose, known in the industry as
croscarmellose, crospovidone and their mixtures.

9. Tablet in accordance with Claim 1 wherein ~~one of~~
~~Claims 1 to 8,~~ characterized in that the mixture of excipients

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may include a permeabilising agent, a solubilising agent, sweeteners, flavors and colorings.

10. Tablet in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said tablet ~~one of Claims 1 to 9, characterized in that it is~~ designed to be packaged in blisters composed entirely of aluminum, which may in addition include a cover of a plastic material which is to be torn off before opening.

11. Process for the production of a tablet in accordance with Claim 1 wherein ~~one of Claims 1 to 10, characterized in that~~ the process involves the following sequence of steps:

choosing, firstly, an active substance in the form of coated microcrystals or microgranules, and secondly, a set of excipients including a disintegrating agent, a soluble agent, and also a lubricating agent;

mixing the active substance and the excipients with the exception of at least the greater part of the lubricating agent;

feeding a quantity of this mixture necessary to form a tablet into the cavity of a compression device within which the mixture is to be compressed and onto the walls of which the necessary quantity of lubricating agent has been applied in advance;

compressing the mixture and ejecting the tablet formed.

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